## PATENT

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANT:

BERNHARD RIEPLER

EXAMINER: L. BAKER AMERSON

SERIAL NO.:

09/831,658

GROUP:

3764

FILED:

MAY 11, 2001

FOR:

FLEXIBLE CONNECTION BETWEEN SPORTS DEVICE AND SHOE

BOX NON-FEE AMENDMENT Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In response to the Office letter of February 5, applicant elects Species IV (Figs. 7 and 8). Claims 51-57 cover the elected species.

Applicant reserves the right to file a divisional application covering the subject matter of Figs. 1-6, which is believed to be directed to a single invention generically covered by claim 30.

Examination of the elected claims on their merits respectfully solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

BERNHARD RIEPLER

Kurt Kelman, Reg. No. 18,628

Allison C. Collard, Reg. No. 22,532 Edward R. Freedman, Reg. No. 26,048

Attorneys for Applicants

Roslyn, New York 11576 (516) 365-9802

1077 Northern Boulevard

COLLARD & ROE, P.C.

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being sent by telefax to the US PTO on February 27, 2003. Fax No.: 1-703 872-9302

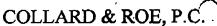
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U.S. SER. NO. 09/831,658

Group: 3764

Applicants: B. RIEPLER

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#### MESSAGE:

Dear Sir:

Enclosed please find a Response to the Office action of Feb. 5, 2003. Please confirm receipt.

Respectfully submitted,

Kurt Kelman

KK:im

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